

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 179529
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-14 SSO-00 AF-10 /050 R

DRAFTED BY P;DTICE:CHG

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 179529

FOR FORBES FOR UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:OVIP

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S COMMENTS ON AFRICA:GUIDANCE

REF: ISLAMABAD 6816

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF YOUNG INTERVIEW REGARDING AFRICA:

"QUESTION: LET'S TURN TO AFRICA. IT IS OFTEN SAID IN WASHINGTON THAT THE FRENCH AND THE AMERICAN POLICIES ARE TOTALLY COMPLEMENTARY ON THAT CONTINENT. DO YOU AGREE?

ANSWER: THIS DEPENDS ON WHAT IS SPOKEN OF. IF THE QUESTION IS TO ASSURE THE TRANSPORTATION OF TROOPS FOR A HUMANITARIAN PURPOSE, AS TO KOLWEZI, THIS IS TRUE. FOR THE REST, I DON'T KNOW VERY WELL WHAT THE FRENCH DO.

QUESTION: BUT WOULD YOU SAY THAT YOUR GOALS ARE THE SAME AS THOSE OF THE FRENCH IN AFRICA?

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ANSWER: NO, NOT AT ALL

QUESTION: COULD YOU EXPAND THIS POINT?

ANSWER: NO. I CANNOT

QUESTION: WHY?

ANSWER: BECAUSE, I BELIEVE THAT THE FRENCH PRIMARILY DEFEND THEIR OWN ECONOMIC INTERESTS. IN THE DIFFERENCE THAT PITTED THEM AGAINST THE BELGIANS IN CONNECTION WITH THE SHABA OPERATIONS FOR EXAMPLE, I WOULD SAY THAT WE WERE CLOSER TO THE BELGIANS, BECAUSE THEY WERE PROMPTED BY HUMANITARIAN CONSIDERATIONS. THEY WANTED TO PROTECT THEIR NATIONALS AND ALSO TO PRESERVE THE MINING INDUSTRY OF THE COUNTRY.

QUESTION: AND THE FRENCH?

ANSWER: I DO NOT EXACTLY KNOW. I BELIEVE THAT THE FRENCH ARE WORRIED BY THEIR BALANCE OF PAYMENTS DEFICIT. THEY HAVE DIFFICULTIES IN COMPETING WITH THE GERMANS, THE JAPANESE, THE SWEDES. THEY HAVE ALWAYS OVERCOME THIS BY DEVELOPING VERY FRUITFUL NEO-COLONIAL RELATIONSHIPS. INCIDENTALLY, I HAVE TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT SOME OF THE COUNTRIES THAT FAIR THE BEST IN AFRICA ARE IN THE FRENCH-SPEAKING ZONE. THE CONVENTIONAL EXAMPLE IS THAT OF THE IVORY COAST. AND I LIKE THE IVORY COAST. WHEN I SEE A PRESIDENT SUCH AS HOUPHOUET BOIGNY DECIDING, IN FULL KNOWLEDGE OF THE CASE, THAT THE FUTURE OF HIS PEOPLE AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF HIS COUNTRY ARE BEST SERVED BY A CLOSE

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COOPERATION WITH FRANCE, I DO ALL I CAN TO SUPPORT HIM.

QUESTION: WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE PLAN TO CREATE AN ALL-AFRICAN FORCE?

ANSWER: I THINK THAT IT WILL NEVER BE BORN. THIS IS WHY I NEVER WAS REALLY UPSET. IT HAS BEEN MUCH SPOKEN OF, BUT SEE WHAT HAS BEEN PRODUCED: THREE HUNDRED SENAGALESE, THREE HUNDRED GABONESE AND PERHAPS A THOUSAND MOROCCANS.. NO, THIS PLAN GIVES RISE TO TOO MUCH OPPOSITION IN THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING COUNTRIES. BECAUSE IT IS NOT SEEN THERE AS AN ALL-AFRICAN FORCE BUT AS A FRENCH-AFRICAN FORCE. THIS WILL CERTAINLY BE A MAIN DISCUSSION TOPIC AT THE OAU CONFERENCE. THIS SAID, I THINK THAT THERE SHOULD BE A WAY BY WHICH THE AFRICAN COUNTRIES COULD MUTUALLY HELP EACH OTHER. AND I THINK THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL WOULD PROBABLY BE THE BEST WAY TO ORGANIZE IT BECAUSE IT COULD FREEZE THE MILITARY SITUATION. THE OAU WANTS TO SETTLE

THESE PROBLEMS ALONE BUT IT DOES NOT HAVE THE MATERIAL MEANS FOR THAT AND, AFTER ALL, AFRICA IS NOT FAR AWAY

FROM THE REST OF THE WORLD. THE UN TROOPS, I THINK, HAVE PROVEN THAT THEY COULD CONTAIN VIOLENCE AND OPEN THE WAY FOR A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT OF THE CONFLICTS. THIS IS WHAT BOTH AFRICA AND THE MIDDLE EAST NEED.

QUESTION: SPEAKING OF CONFLICTS, WHAT IS YOUR POSITION ON THE ROLE THAT THE CUBANS PLAYED, OR DID NOT PLAY, IN SHABA?

ANSWER: THE PRESIDENT JUDGED THAT THEY HAD A PART OF THE RESPONSIBILITY. THIS IS ALSO MY OPINION. BECAUSE THEY ASSUMED THE OBLIGATIONS OF MILITARY ADVISERS OF THE ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT AND, AS SUCH, MUST ASSUME THIRD UNCLASSIFIED

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PART OF RESPONSIBILITY.

QUESTION: YET FIDEL CASTRO WAS CAREFUL TO FOREWARN WASHINGTON, QUITE AN UNUSUAL GESTURE ON HIS PART...

ANSWER: HE SIMPLY INFORMED US THAT THE CUBANS HAD NOT PLAYED ANY ROLE IN THE INVASION. BUT, BEFORE THAT, HE COULD HAVE WARNED THOSE WHO PREPARED IT AND DETERRED THEM. AND HE DID NOT DO IT.

QUESTION: WHY, IN YOUR OPINION?

ANSWER: I BELIEVE THAT HE DID NOT DO IT PROBABLY BECAUSE EAST GERMANS WERE INVOLVED IN THAT AFFAIR. I ALWAYS THOUGHT SO.

QUESTION: ON THE BASIS OF WHAT INFORMATION?

ANSWER: WELL, WHILE THE PRESENCE OF EAST GERMANS IN AFRICA IS LIMITED, THEIR ROLE IS INCREASING THERE ARE NOT MANY TROOPS BUT A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF TECHNICAL ADVISERS. AND THE EAST GERMANS ACTUALLY TRAIN AND ARM THE AFRICANS IN SITUATIONS SUCH AS THIS ONE. AND THERE THEY HAD A GOOD REASON. THEY WERE WORRIED BY THE MISSILE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM SET AFOOT BY THE WEST GERMANS IN SHABA. IF THE CUBANS SAID NOTHING, IT WAS BECAUSE THEY COULD NOT BETRAY THE EAST GERMANS. BUT THEY ALSO WANTED US TO KNOW THAT THEY HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THAT.

QUESTION: WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE PRIVILEGED RELATIONS THAT FRANCE MAINTAINS WITH JONAH SAVIMBI AND THE UNITA THAT FIGHT THE ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT? UNCLASSIFIED

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ANSWER: IT HAPPENS THAT I LIKE SAVIMBI WELL. BUT I
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IF THERE WERE A RAPPROCHEMENT WITH THE MPLA, I
WOULD BE THE FIRST TO ENCOURAGE IT.

QUESTION: BUT THIS IS NOT THE POLICY OF THE FRENCH...

ANSWER: NO, I THINK THAT THEIR LEFT HAND IS PERHAPS
DESTROYING IN ANGOLA WHAT THEIR RIGHT HAND IS BUILDING
IN ZAIRE.

QUESTION: THEIR LEFT HAND BEING THAT OF COVER
OPERATIONS...

ANSWER: YES."

2. DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN AT PRESS BRIEFING JULY 13,

FOLLOWING PREPARED GUIDANCE, SAID THE FOLLOWING:

"LET ME ALSO SAY THAT THERE WERE CERTAIN PARTS OF
THE INTERVIEW WHICH CONCERNED FRENCH POLICY IN
AFRICA. AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S INTERVIEW AND HIS
REMARKS RELATING TO FRENCH POLICY IN AFRICA DO NOT
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UNCLAS STATE 179529

FOR UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM

FOL TEL SENT ACTION JIDDA FROM SECSATE WASHDC DTD 15 JUL 1978
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PERSONAL VIEWS". CHRISTOPHER. UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
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Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Line Count: 423
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Reference: 78 ISLAMABAD 6816
Retention: 0
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Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1994149
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S COMMENTS ON AFRICA:GUIDANCE
TAGS: OVIP, SOPN, XA, (YOUNG, ANDREW)
To: JIDDA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7c068072-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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